



## NEW PROGRAM PROPOSAL FORM

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**Sponsoring Institution(s):** Missouri State University-West Plains

**Program Title:** Agriculture

**Degree/Certificate:** Associate of Science

**Options:** NA

**Delivery Site(s):** Missouri State University-West Plains

**CIP Classification:** 01.0000

\*CIP code can be cross-referenced with programs offered in your region on MDHE's program inventory [highered.mo.gov/ProgramInventory/search.jsp](http://highered.mo.gov/ProgramInventory/search.jsp)

**Implementation Date:** January 2015

**Cooperative Partners:** NA

\*If this is a collaborative program, form CL must be included with this proposal

### AUTHORIZATION:

Dennis Lancaster/Dean of Academic Affairs

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Name/Title of Institutional Officer	Signature	Date
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Cathy Proffitt Boys	417-255-7278	
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Person to Contact for More Information	Telephone	
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## STUDENT ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

Year	1	2	3	4	5
Full Time	15	18	20	23	25
Part Time	5	6	10	12	15
Total	20	24	30	35	40

Please provide a rationale regarding how student enrollment projections were calculated:

*MSU-WP has a successful agriculture program in place, with many of these students planning to transfer to a bachelors degree program upon completion of their associates degree. The proposed AS in Agriculture is designed to meet the needs of those transfer students. The student enrollment projections are based on the expectation that some students will shift from the AAS in General Agriculture, which is considered a terminal degree, as well as new students entering the agriculture program.*

Provide a **rationale** for proposing this program, including **evidence of market demand and societal need supported by research**:

*Missouri State University (MSU) is a multi-campus university system; its campuses are structured to address the special needs of the rural populations they serve in the Ozarks, which has a significant agricultural economy and rapidly growing tourism and recreational industries. MSU-Springfield is a selective admissions, master's level teaching and research institution that serves over 23,800 undergraduates and graduate students. Missouri State University-West Plains (MSU-WP) is an open admissions campus with 2,200 undergraduate students. MSU-Mountain Grove serves Missouri's fruit and wine industries through the State Fruit Experiment Station.*

*A majority of counties in Missouri, except in metropolitan areas, have traditionally based their economies on agricultural or agribusiness specializations and the South Central region is no exception. MSU-WP received a Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grant (TAACCCT) in 2013, in part to increase agricultural education through the expansion of agriculture degrees, certificates, and courses, as well as build a new greenhouse. MSU-WP's agricultural programs will support other local initiatives, such as the recently formed Ozarks Farmers Co-op, which focuses on vegetable production, primarily tomatoes.*



*Data from the USDA shows that statewide the number of organic or niche agriculture operations increased since 2006 and family farms remain at 72% of total farms. State and regional employment in farming (production agriculture) is expected to remain steady or decline between 2010 and 2020 but agribusiness occupations are projected to increase by 3% to 5%. This means there will be a need for more sustainable and green "agricultural economics" education and training opportunities. According to the O\*NET Resource Center, agricultural technician jobs will show increased growth because of enhanced skills training while farm-related occupations under business operations have a "bright outlook". Food manufacturing is also one of the fastest growing long-term industries in North Central Arkansas and management occupations including farmers, ranchers and other agricultural managers are projected to be an "in-demand" source of jobs.*



## COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS

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**Sponsoring Institutions:** Missouri State University-West Plains

**Degree program:** Associate of Science in Agriculture

**Length of agreement:** NA  
(open-ended or limited)

1. Which institution(s) will have degree-granting authority?  
Missouri State University – West Plains
2. Which institution(s) will have the authority for faculty hiring, course assignment, evaluation, and reappointment decisions? Missouri State University-West Plains
3. What agreements exist to ensure that faculty from all participating institutions will be involved in decisions about the curriculum, admissions standards, exit requirements?  
NA
4. Which institution(s) will be responsible for academic and student-support services, e.g., registration, advising, library, academic assistance, financial aid, etc.? NA
5. What agreements exist to ensure that the academic calendars of the participating institutions have been aligned as needed? NA
6. In addition to the information provided by each participating institution regarding Financial Projections (Form FP), please address the following items:
  1. How will tuition rates be determined if they differ among the institutions? NA
  2. Has a formal agreement been developed regarding cost-sharing policies? If yes, please include it as part of the proposal. If no, please summarize the current understanding between all parties and the plans for developing a formal agreement. NA
  3. What arrangements, if any, have been made for exchange of money between participating institutions? NA
7. What commitments have been made by all participants to evaluate the program systematically? NA
8. If one institution wishes to discontinue the program, what agreements exist for terminating the offering? NA



## PROGRAM STRUCTURE

A. Total credits required for graduation: 63

B. Residency requirements, if any: Completion of last 15 credits in residence on the West Plains Campus or its extended campuses

C. General education: Total credits: 45-47

Courses (specific courses OR distribution area and credits):

Course Number	Credits	Course Title
<b>Foundation</b>		
COM 115	3	Fundamentals of Public Speaking
ENG 110	3	Writing I
ENG 210 or 221	3	Writing II: Academic Writing or Writing for the Professions
MTH 135 or above Except MTH 197 or MTH 297	3	College Algebra
IDS 110	2	Student Success
<b>US &amp; Missouri Constitution &amp; American History</b>		
PLS 101	3	American Democracy & Citizenship
HST 121 or 122	3	Survey of US History to 1877 or Survey of US History Since 1877
<b>Cultural Competence (Select 1)</b>		
REL 100	3	Religion and Human Culture
GRY 100	3	World Regional Geography
<b>Public Issues (Select 1)</b>		
AGR 100	3	Food Security
CIS 200	3	Critical & Creative Thinking Using Information Technology
COM 110	3	Critical Thinking
ECO 101	3	Economics of Social Issues
PHI 105 or 115	3	Logic, Language, & Argument or Introduction to Ethics
PLS 232 or 205	3	International Relations or Countries & Cultures: Comparative Government
TEC 105	3	Technology's Impact on Society
<b>Humanities (Select 1)</b>		
LIT 121 or above	3	Classical Mythology or above
ENG 230, 231, 235, 240, 280, 282, 285 OR 288	3	Introductory Reading in Literature, Major Writers of English, etc.
MUS 241	3	The Language of Music
MED 274	3	Understanding Film
PHI 110	3	Introduction to Philosophy
REL 101 or 102	3	Introduction to Old Testament or Introduction to New Testament
HST 103 or 104	3	World History to 1500 C.E. or World History Since 1500 C.E.
<b>Social &amp; Behavioral Science</b>		
AGR 144 or ECO 155/165	3	Agricultural Economics or Principles of Macroeconomics or Principles of Microeconomics
PSY 121	3	Introductory Psychology
SOC 150	3	Principles of Sociology

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Form PS – Program Structure



The Arts (Select 1)		
ART 200	3	Art in Context
ENG 203, 205 or 215	3	Creative Writing: Poetry or Nonfiction or Short Story
MUS 239	3	Introduction to World Music
THE 101	3	Introduction to Theatre & Drama Arts
Life Sciences		
BIO 100, 101, 111, 12	4	Biological Sciences for Educators or Biology in Your World & Understanding Biological Systems or General Biology I
GLG 115	4	Life of the Past
Physical Sciences		
CHM 116 (lab component CHM 117) or 160	4-5	Fundamentals of Chemistry & Fundamentals of Chemistry Lab or General Chemistry I
GLG 110, 171, 135 or GRY 142	4	Principles of Geology or Environmental Geology or Introductory Physical Geography

D. Major requirements: Total credits: 18

Course Number	Credits	Course Title
Other Requirements		
CIS 101	3	Computers for Learning
IDS/AGR 297	3	Global Agriculture & Food Production (capstone)
Agriculture Requirements (Select 12 credit hours from ONE of the following groups)		
Agricultural Business Group	12	ACC 201, ACC 211, AGR 101, AGR 103 or 115, AGR 215, AGR 161, FIN 266, 211, LAW 231, MGT 286, QBA 237.
Agricultural Education Group	12	AGR 101, AGR 103 or 115, AGR 143, AGR 215.
Animal Science Group	12	AGR 101, AGR 103 or 115, AGR 215, AGR 161, AGR 162, AGR 191, AGR 196, AGR 250, AGR 262.
General Agriculture Group	12	AGR 101, AGR 103 or 115, AGR 157, AGR 215.
Natural Resources Group	12	AGR 101, AGR 103, AGR 115, AGR 143, AGR 215, GLG 110 or GRY 135 or GRY 142.
Plant Science Group	12	ACC 201, AGR 101, AGR 103, AGR 104, AGR 115, AGR 143, AGR 215.
Wildlife Conservation & Management Group	12	AGR 103 or 115, AGR 143, AGR 215, GLG 110.

E. Free elective credits:

*This degree program has no free electives. Students do have the option to select from groups of courses for a total of 12 credit hours in the Agriculture Requirements listed in section D.*

(Sum of C, D, and E should equal A.)

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Form PS – Program Structure



F. Requirements for thesis, internship or other capstone experience:

*This program requires one capstone course: IDS/AGR 297 Global Agriculture & Food Production.*

G. Any unique features such as interdepartmental cooperation:

*The AS in Agriculture is designed as a transfer degree. Students complete a minimum of 42 hours of general education courses in addition to the agriculture courses.*



## PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS AND PERFORMANCE GOALS

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Institution Name      Missouri State University-West Plains  
Program Name          Associate of Science in Agriculture  
Date                      September 30, 2014

(Although all of the following guidelines may not be applicable to the proposed program, please carefully consider the elements in each area and respond as completely as possible in the format below. Quantification of performance goals should be included wherever possible.)

### 1. Student Preparation

- Any special admissions procedures or student qualifications required for this program which exceed regular university admissions, standards, e.g., ACT score, completion of core curriculum, portfolio, personal interview, etc. Please note if no special preparation will be required.

*Missouri State University-West Plains (MSU-WP) is an open admissions campus. Students are expected to complete an ACT or COMPASS test for math and English class placement purposes only. The proposed AS in Agriculture has no special preparation required beyond the regular university admission requirements.*

- Characteristics of a specific population to be served, if applicable.  
*MSU-WP and MSU-Mountain Grove are located in the most rural and isolated region of the state and are the only public higher educational institutions offering associate degree or certificate program opportunities in the seven county service area. Of the total residents in the service area, 25 percent live at or below the poverty line. Less than nine percent of the service area population have achieved college degrees. Approximately three-fourths of the MSU-West Plains and MSU-Mountain Grove students are not prepared for college-level work as measured by placement assessment, forcing them to complete up to three remedial courses.*

### 2. Faculty Characteristics

- Any special requirements (degree status, training, etc.) for assignment of teaching for this degree/certificate.

*Full-time and part-time faculty are required to have completed a minimum of a masters degree in order to teach the courses required for this degree program.*

- Estimated percentage of credit hours that will be assigned to full time faculty. Please use the term "full time faculty" (and not FTE) in your descriptions here.  
*Approximately 80% of the courses for this program may be taught by full-time faculty and 20% may be taught by per course faculty.*





- Expectations for professional activities, special student contact, teaching/learning innovation.

*Full-time faculty are strongly encouraged to pursue continuing education opportunities in their respective fields and to participate in professional organizations; professional development funds are provided by the university. All full-time faculty serve as student advisors.*

### **3. Enrollment Projections**

- Student FTE majoring in program by the end of five years.

*Estimated FTEs = 33 students.*

Percent of full time and part time enrollment by the end of five years.

*Estimated full-time enrollment = 62.5%; Estimated part-time enrollment = 37.5%*



#### 4. Student and Program Outcomes

- Number of graduates per annum at three and five years after implementation.  
*Estimated graduates at three years = 18; Estimated graduates at five years = 46*
- Special skills specific to the program.  
*Depending on the agriculture course group selected, each student could acquire knowledge skills in animal science, plant science, soils, natural resources, wildlife conservation & management, and agricultural business, as well as general education.*
- Proportion of students who will achieve licensing, certification, or registration.  
*NA*
- Performance on national and/or local assessments, e.g., percent of students scoring above the 50th percentile on normed tests; percent of students achieving minimal cut-scores on criterion-referenced tests. Include expected results on assessments of general education and on exit assessments in a particular discipline as well as the name of any nationally recognized assessments used.  
*NA*
- Placement rates in related fields, in other fields, unemployed.  
*Estimated placement rate in related fields = 80%; Estimated placement rate in other fields = 20%*
- Transfer rates, continuous study.  
*Estimated transfer and/or continuous study rate = 65%*

#### 5. Program Accreditation

- Institutional plans for accreditation, if applicable, including accrediting agency and timeline. **If there are no plans to seek specialized accreditation, please provide a rationale.**  
*The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association – Completed Spring 2014*

#### 6. Alumni and Employer Survey

- Expected satisfaction rates for alumni, *including timing and method of surveys.*  
*Graduate surveys will be conducted, via telephone, within six months of graduation.*
- Expected satisfaction rates for employers, including timing and method of surveys.  
*Employers of program graduates will be surveyed, via telephone, within six months of graduation. A general survey of local employers will be conducted every two years, via written survey mailed to each employer, with at least 90% of employers responding will indicate satisfaction with the preparation of graduates.*

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## 7. Institutional Characteristics

- Characteristics demonstrating why your institution is particularly well-equipped to support the program.

*Since 1963, MSU-WP has successfully met the needs of its constituents in providing effective learning opportunities to students in liberal arts and transfer education. Since the mid-1990's, those opportunities were extended to programs in career and technical education. MSU-WP has a successful agriculture program in place with many of those students transferring to a bachelors degree program upon completion of their associates degree. The proposed AS in Agriculture is designed to meet the needs of those transfer students, in particular for those transferring to the MSU campus in Springfield, Missouri. With this proposed AS in Agriculture, MSU-WP is striving to fulfill its mission to provide quality educational services to south central Missouri.*